DC

CATWOMAN

YEAR OF THE VILLAIN

17

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CATWOMAN

◆ YEAR OF THE VILLAIN ◆ HOSTILE TAKEOVER ◆

CATWOMAN 17

JONES • ALLRED

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TWISTED WORLDS THAT SHOULD NOT EXIST!

TALES FROM THE DARK MULTIVERSE

THE DARK MULTIVERSE DISTORTS THE BIGGEST DC STORIES OF ALL TIME!

Prestige format one-shots

Written by

SCOTT SNYDER, KYLE HIGGINS, JEFF LOVENESS, TIM SEELEY, JAMES TYNION IV & MAT GROOM

Art by

JAVIER FERNANDEZ, BRAD WALKER, KYLE HOTZ, AARON LOPRESTI & TOM RANEY

Covers by LEE WEEKS

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Lazarus Pit...

"THE WORLD IS CHANGING, SELINA.

"DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME FOR US TO STOP DWELLING IN THE SHADOWS...

...AND STEP INTO THE LIGHT?

"SURELY YOU CAN SEE THE ONCOMING RUIN TO YOUR ADOPTIVE CITY...

"RAINA CREEL WILL BE THE **AGENT** OF THAT DESTRUCTION, THOUGH SHE MAY NOT KNOW IT YET.

Creel Mansion, before the pit...

THE MAP THAT ELUDED YOU TOOK HER TO ONE OF THE HIDDEN LAZARUS PITS OUTSIDE THE CITY.

THE HARD OPTION

BY JOËLLE JONES
LAURA ALLRED COLORS
SAIDA TEMOFONTE LETTERS
DAVID FINCH & STEVE FIRCHOW MAIN COVER
ALBERTO VARANDA VARIANT COVER
HARVEY RICHARDS ASSOCIATE EDITOR
JAMIE S. RICH EDITOR

WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE A MIND LIKE HERS WOULD DO WITH THE POWER OVER LIFE AND DEATH?

I KNOW I SHOULD CARE, LEX, BUT VILLA HERMOSA AND CREEL HAVE BEEN NOTHING MORE THAN AN ENTERTAINING DISTRACTION.

ONCE I CATCH MY PREY, I ALWAYS LOSE INTEREST.

I NEED TO BE IN GOTHAM--IT IS MY HOME.

I ADMIT YOUR PRESENCE THERE HAS ALWAYS MADE AN ALREADY COLORFUL LANDSCAPE OF CHARACTERS POSITIVELY TECHNICOLOR.

BUT DOES GOTHAM NEED YOU?

IN YOUR ABSENCE, THE CITY CONTINUES ON, AND ITS PEOPLE SEEM TO HAVE MOVED ON AS WELL.

YOUR SISTER NEEDS YOU TO CARE FOR HER, AND VILLA HERMOSA NEEDS A LEADER...

...PERHAPS SOMEONE LIKE YOU?

THIS MAP WILL TAKE YOU TO THE LAZARUS PIT, WHERE NO DOUBT MRS. CREEL IS HEADING. YOU COULD STOP HER.

ULTIMATELY I'M OFFERING YOU A CHOICE.

TO STAY OR GO, TO BE A HERO OR A VILLAIN.

IT'S TIME YOU CHOSE A SIDE...

"...AND REALLY, WHAT IS THERE FOR YOU IN GOTHAM TO GO BACK TO?"

WHAT IS THERE FOR ME IN GOTHAM?

EVERYTHING... AND NOTHING.

IT CONTAINS MY PAST AND THE HUNDREDS OF STORIES THAT HAVE SHAPED WHO I AM.

IT TAUGHT ME HOW TO BALANCE.

IT'S THERE I LEARNED THAT LIFE FOR ME WOULD ALWAYS BE A DELICATE BALANCING ACT OF GOOD AND EVIL.

ALWAYS CAREFUL NEVER TO TIP TOO FAR IN ONE DIRECTION.

AND THIS KEPT ME SAFE.

UNTIL I STOPPED DANCING AND CHOSE TO FALL.

FALLING WITH YOU NEVER FELT LIKE THE DESTRUCTION I FEARED. IT WAS CLOSER TO SALVATION.

BLISSFULLY UNAWARE, AND HAPPY TO FALL WITH YOU FOREVER.

BUT NATURE DEMANDED ITS BALANCE.

AND I CLOSED MY EYES TO IT.

WHILE I WASN'T LOOKING, THE SCALES EVENTUALLY TIPPED.

HE CAN'T BE HAPPY AND ALSO BE BATMAN.

I HAD TO SET THINGS RIGHT.

Lazarus Pit...

HE SEEMS TO NEED HIS MISERY, Y'KNOW. LIKE IT'S HOW HE DOES WHAT HE DOES.

SO I LEFT.

PLAYING HERO AND VILLAIN AGAINST MY OWN HEART.

I TOOK THE MAP FROM LEX.

I'M A BIG BELIEVER IN DISTRACTION THROUGH ACTION...

...AND REALLY, WHAT IS WAITING FOR ME IN GOTHAM ANYWAY?

THAT'S IT? THAT'S THE LAZARUS PIT?

WHAT WERE YOU EXPECTING?

I DON'T KNOW, SOMETHING GRANDER? A LITTLE LESS RUSTIC?

HOW GRAND CAN SOMETHING CALLED *A PIT* BE?

JUST GO FIND ADAM. HE'S LURKING AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.

I WONDER HOW IT WORKS?

LET'S FIND OUT...

BANG

RAINA!

WHAT DID YOU DO?!

KKKAK!

THAT'S ENOUGH, ADAM...

...ROLL THEM IN.

SHE WAS BUILDING AN ARMY.

I WASN'T EXACTLY MOURNING THE PASSINGS OF YILMAZ AND FINICK, BUT I THOUGHT I SHOULD PROBABLY DO SOMETHING TO STOP HER BEFORE THINGS GOT OUT OF HAND.

UNFORTUNATELY FOR ME, CREEL'S CREEPY KID FOUND ME FIRST.

NORMALLY THIS KIND OF "SURPRISE" WOULD RARELY EVER HAPPEN TO ME...

...BUT I HAD A LOT ON MY MIND. LOOKING OUT FOR ZOMBIE FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLDS WASN'T SOMETHING I WAS REALLY THINKING ABOUT AT THE TIME.

SO NOW YOU'RE PRETTY MUCH UP TO SPEED. THREE ANIMATED CORPSES AGAINST ONE UNDERPREPARED CAT.

NOT ONE OF MY FINEST MOMENTS, SO IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL SKIP AHEAD...

HERE I AM LOSING THE FIGHT.

THE VILLAIN'S MONOLOGUE.

THEY LEAVE...

...TURNS OUT I'M OKAY...

...CLIMB INTO THE PIT...

THAT QUICKLY BECAME TEDIOUS.

...COME OUT THE OTHER SIDE LOOKING FABULOUS BUT **SUPREMELY** IRRITATED.

MAKE MY WAY BACK TO VILLA HERMOSA AND START LOOKING FOR CREEL BY SHAKING DOWN SOME OF HER LACKEYS.

WHAT I NEEDED WAS A SHORTCUT...

MAGIC CLU

...AND A LITTLE MAGIC.

MAGIC CLUB

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

THANK YOU, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

NOW FOR MY NEXT TRICK, I'M GOING TO NEED A LITTLE HELP FROM THE AUDIENCE...

YOU, SIR, CAN YOU PLEASE COME UP--NO?

ALL RIGHT... YOU, MADAM. EVERYONE GIVE HER A ROUND OF APPLAUSE!

CLAP

CAN I GET YOU ANYTHING, MISS?

YES, I'LL TAKE ANOTHER MANHATTAN.

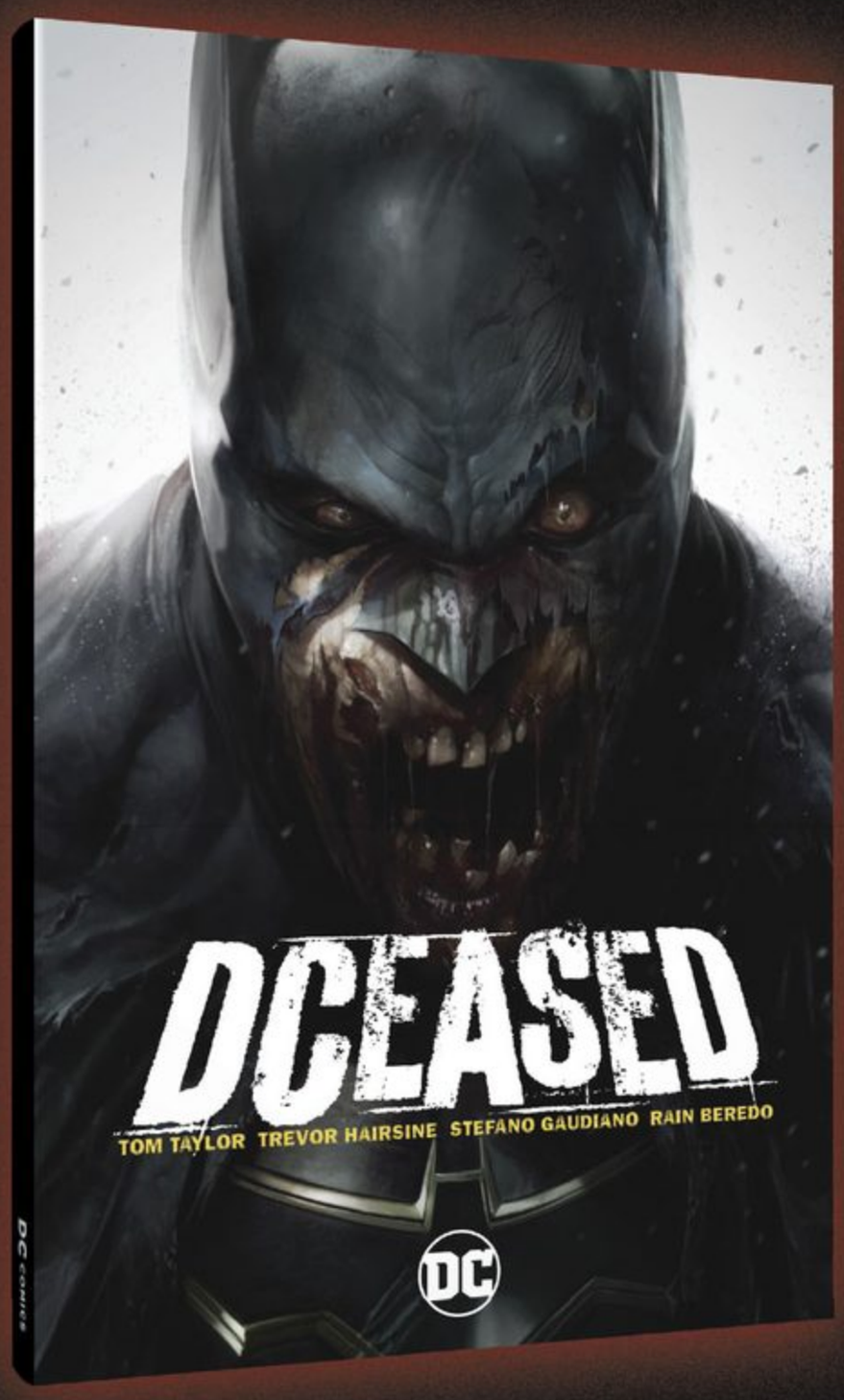
...AND BRING ONE FOR MY FRIEND.

next: ZATANNA!

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER HEROES WHEN THE WORLD ENDS?

DCEASED

WRITTEN BY **TOM TAYLOR** ART BY **TREVOR HAIRSINE** AND **STEFANO GAUDIANO**



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NOVEMBER

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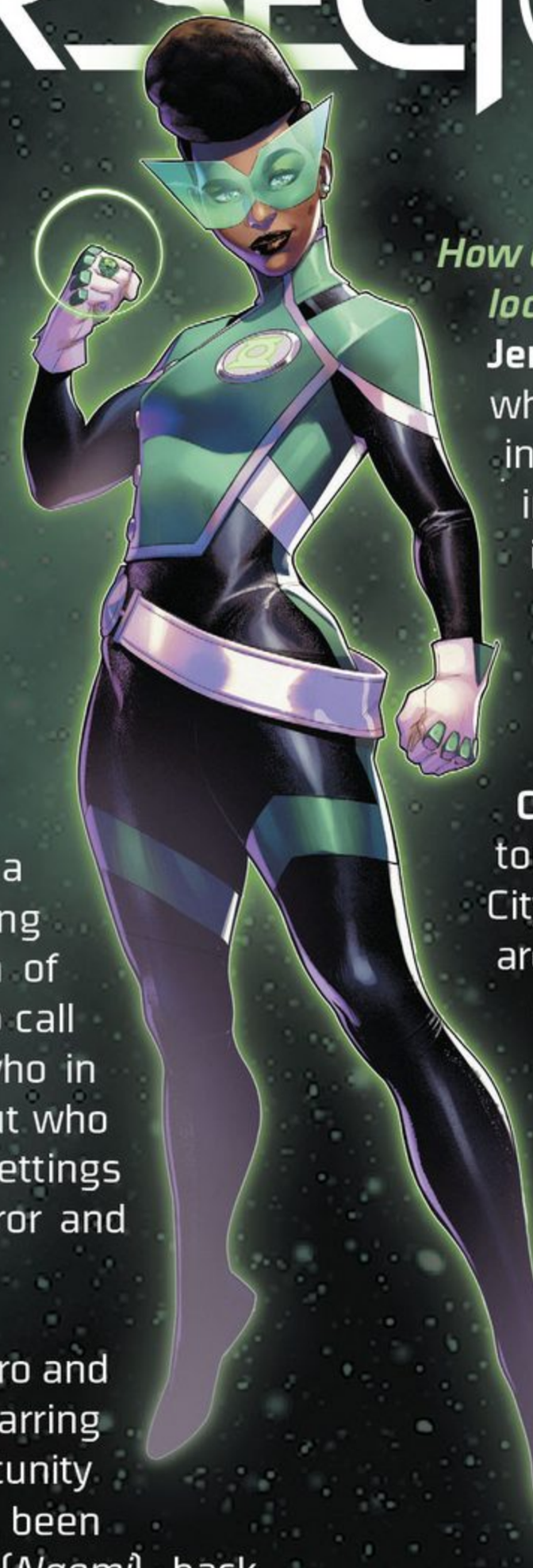
DC NATION

AN INTERVIEW WITH WRITER N.K. JEMISIN AND ARTIST JAMAL CAMPBELL

FAR SECTOR



The City Enduring, a metropolis at the edge of the universe, hasn't had a violent crime in 500 years—until now. It's up to rookie Green Lantern Sojourner "Jo" Mullein to keep the civilization from tearing itself apart.

What do you love about Jo, and exploring the world of* Far Sector *through her?

N.K. Jemisin: I like that she's a stranger in a strange land—operating outside of the normal jurisdiction of Green Lanterns, without anyone to call for help, in a city full of people who in many cases resemble humans, but who can be deeply, frighteningly alien. Settings like this are a perfect way to mirror and explore the human condition.

Jamal Campbell: Creating a new hero and a new world, in the DC Universe, starring in their own title book, is the opportunity of a lifetime—and I've somehow been put in the position to do it twice (*Naomi*), back-to-back? It's wild, and a bit overwhelming. I'm just happy to be in this moment of pure creation where I can put out my best work.

How did you develop the City Enduring's location and culture?

Jemisin: I got contacted by Gerard Way, who had an idea for a Green Lantern book in which the protagonist would be alone, in a distant sector of space, embedded in a futuristic society. The idea was so intriguing that details pretty much sprung into my head, and I started putting together the City Enduring.

Campbell: There were a number of touchstones that I wanted to hit. First, the City being this gargantuan megalopolis built around a star is such a cool and intriguing concept just on its own. Secondly, it's a city that never ends. It's sprawling and vast, yet so dense and claustrophobic that wherever you look, you have to feel tiny and a bit lost. Lastly, there's the inhabitants of the city, and how the people interact and live amongst one another, and developed as a society.

What will surprise Green Lantern fans about Jo's powers?

Jemisin: Among other things, her ring doesn't have to be charged with a GL power battery. Because of that, however, it's got some significant limitations relative to other GLs. You'll have to read the comic for more on that.

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